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5. The foreign currency bonus of 7½%, normally payable to Russian Zone exporters on hard currency sales, was converted into a rare merchandise bonus in Thuringia in mid-July. In a mimeographed letter, the Thuringian Ministry of Economics offered shoes, textiles, and wrapping paper to exporters in lieu of those hard currency amounts at their disposal for overseas purchases. According to an official of the Thuringian Ministry of Economics, the goods offered were contracted for by the Russians for export, but were found unexportable. The prices at which they were now offered to exporters corresponded to cost plus 30%.

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